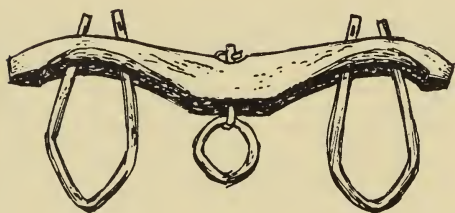


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Lincoln in Peekskill.

LINCOLN ROOM



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# LINCOLN IN PEEKSKILL

The Lincoln Exedra

The Lincoln Memorial in Books

Exercises at the dedication of The Lincoln Memorial in Peekskill, October 6, 1925, in commemoration of the visit of Abraham Lincoln to Peekskill, February 19, 1861.



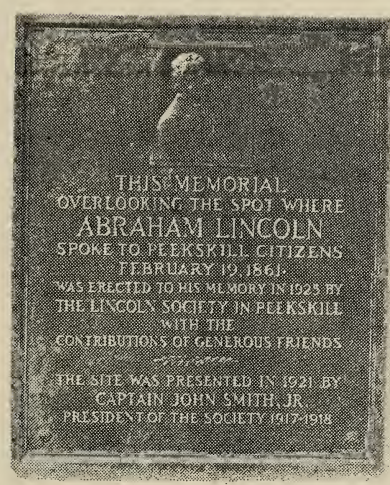
Published by The Lincoln Society in Peekskill



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LINCOLN Room



**The Exedra Tablet**

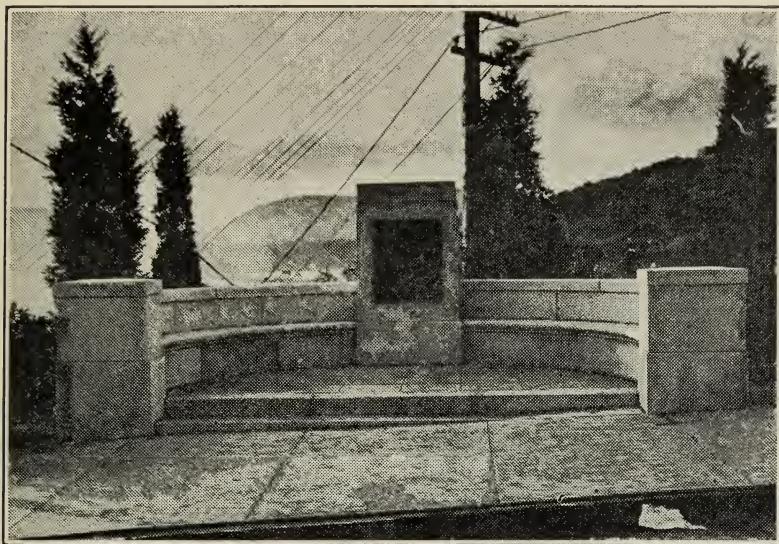




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# THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL WAS DEDICATED



**The Lincoln Exedra on South Street**

The dedication of the Lincoln Memorial and the unveiling of the tablet upon it, took place in the presence of a large audience assembled in front of the exedra on South street overlooking the Hudson, on Tuesday afternoon, October 6, 1925, beginning at quarter past two o'clock.

Chester A. Smith, President of the Lincoln Society, presided over the exercises which began with a medley of national airs by the Peekskill High School orchestra, led by Miss M. Viola Willis. The final air was the Star Spangled Banner.

President Smith said:

"We will be led in prayer by Dr. S. Willis McFadden, president of the Peekskill Preachers' Association."

Rev. Dr. McFadden offered the following invocation:

"Our Lord, our God, we look unto Thee thanking Thee for our numerous blessings, for life and for this great land with its institutions, its liberty and all those things which have come unto us through the gate of the nation. We look unto Thee and acknowledge

Thee as our God and the one that hath brought unto us all these privileges and responsibilities. We come unto Thee in these institutions and we thank Thee for the vision and for the principles which originated them.

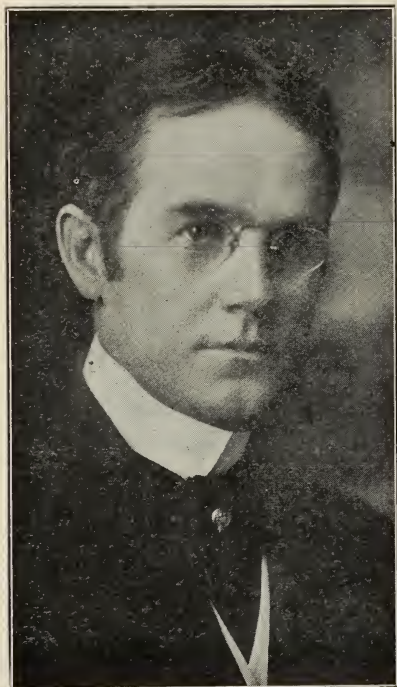
We thank Thee for all our great forebears and as Thou hast been with them, we look unto Thee and pray that Thou wilt be with their sons.

As we come this afternoon to unveil this memorial in honor of that great liberator and leader of men, we wish to thank Thee for the part that he has played; for his example to the nation; and so we pray, that as this memorial is dedicated to that great spirit it may remind us of him, of that great man who knew Thee and who knew the power which Thou dost manifest. Help us to realize, our Lord, our God, that all things are with Thee and that Thou dost lead great causes and crown them.

Bless us and lead us. Bless those who are in authority; our president, his body of counselors and all those who are associated with him in leading this great land. Bless our own

commonwealth and governor. Be our counselor and help us realize as citizens and as leaders that we live in a land that our Lord careth for and that his eyes are upon it even unto the end.

Bless us now in the exercises of the afternoon and may those who rest by this memorial come to realize the



**Rev. Dr. S. Willis McFadden**

charity, the wisdom and the greatness of that leader to whom it is dedicated in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

#### **Welcome by President Smith**

President Smith then spoke as follows:

"I welcome you today on behalf of the Lincoln Society in Peekskill to these dedication exercises.

We are grateful for the presence of these representatives of our various patriotic and civic organizations; for these speakers who shall address us: for the faculty and students of our High school and its orchestra; for all these friends and citizens.

We dedicate today this memorial to

Abraham Lincoln, the greatest personality our world has seen since Jesus. We recall the honor he paid our village when on that momentous journey from Springfield to Washington to assume the presidency he stopped here for a few brief minutes, February 19, 1861.

February 12, 1921, sixty years after that event, John Smith, Jr., one of Lincoln's soldiers and a former president of the Lincoln Society, presented to the Society this plot of land as the site of a Lincoln Memorial. The late Homer Anderson, likewise a veteran of the Civil War, and a former president of the Society, who was very much interested in the idea of a memorial, was appointed, at a meeting of the Board of Directors on March 1, 1925, as a special committee to present to the Board at its next meeting plans for a memorial, but before the time for that meeting had arrived his sudden death had ensued. He had, however, spoken to Gilbert H. Anderson, the architect, about the matter, and as the latter had kindly offered to contribute his services in drawing the plans, I asked him to do so. They were drawn and later presented to the Board of Directors of the Society and approved, the Board deciding to have the Memorial erected if the money for the same could be procured. Victor C. Anderson, the artist, painted a very beautiful picture of the proposed memorial and of the view of Peekskill bay and the Highlands from this site, and this proved a great aid in presenting the matter to those friends who became subscribers and thus made possible the memorial.

#### **Contributors to Exedra Fund**

There were twelve \$250 subscriptions:

Coleridge W. Hart and Mrs. Sara W. Hart, Melvin R. Horton, Cornelius A. Pugsley, Chester A. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Frank N. Clinton in memory of Allan L. Sutton; Martin Nilsson, Enoch J. Tompkins, Mrs. Enoch J. Tompkins, George W. Buchanan, Chauncey M. Depew, Louis Ettlinger, Thomas Nelson, Jr.

There was one \$200 subscription: Grenci & Ellis.

There were eight \$100 subscriptions: Charles E. Howard, Benjamin F.



McCabe, Woman's Relief Corps, Sons of Veterans, William H. Stevens, William Church Osborn, James Dempsey, Dr. John A. Smith and Major Fred A. Smith.

There was one \$75 subscriber:  
A. S. Renza.

There was one \$50 subscriber:  
A friend.

There were 12 \$25 subscriptions:

Dr. A. E. Phin; Mrs. Emma Drum; Fred J. Bohlmann; Woman's Christian Temperance Union; Dr. Moses Scuccimarra; Charles E. Winslow; Joseph Testa; William Belknap; John Towart Jr.; Mrs. Homer Anderson and Miss Sonora Anderson; The Rotary Club; the Colored citizens of Peekskill (by Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Green, Samuel Halstead, James Hankins, Fred Rivers, Edward Lewis, Walter Jackson, Clinton Aray, Weldon Fields, Harry Tapley, James Taylor, Sylvester Stevenson, John Coleman, Reliable Catering Co., Peekskill Dry Cleaning Company.)

There were three \$10 subscriptions:

Grand Army of the Republic, Auxiliary No. 41, Sons of Veterans, Fred Christopher.

There were three \$5 subscriptions:

Elbert H. Bagley, A friend, A. W. A. Stevens.

Victor C. Anderson presented the painting with the understanding that it be sold and the money received therefrom be his contribution to the fund. It will shortly be sent to Mr. Enoch J. Tompkins, in Florida, who has purchased it under this condition, the price to be fixed by the artist.

The total cost of the Memorial was \$4,380.

It could not have been built for this amount, however, if the following persons had not made the following contributions:

Reynolds & Chase, surveyors, surveyed the property and made an elevation map without charge.

Gilbert H. Anderson, architect, drew the plans and specifications and superintended the work without charge.

Grenci & Ellis, owners of the Mohegan granite quarry, furnished and set up the granite at cost.

A. S. Renza, who did the foundation and concrete work, did some of that work at less than actual cost.

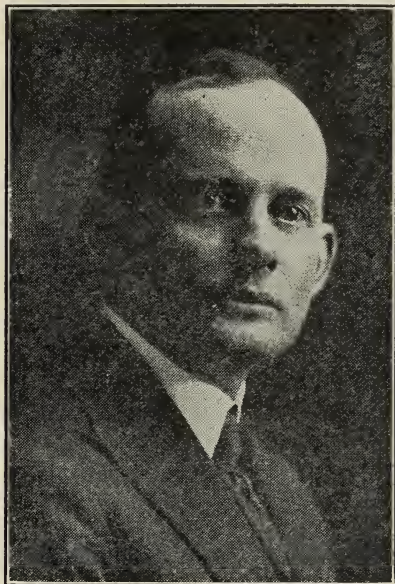
Miss Evelyn W. Smith, president of the Amawalk Nurseries, contributed and planted without charge these fine trees and shrubbery.

The Peekskill Lighting and Railroad Company through its superintendent, Charles Le Clair, removed the lighting wires which came over the Memorial and placed them beyond it to the north.

Bucher and Robinson contributed soil for filling in the ground about the trees.

### Thanks Contributors

I cannot find words to express adequately my appreciation of the generosity of these public spirited people, who by their money contributions and



Chester A. Smith

otherwise have made possible this memorial and this another improvement to our village. I can only say to them both personally and on behalf of the Lincoln Society: We thank you and trust that the memorial which you have made it possible for us to erect meets with your approval.

My friends, it is to me a very splendid thing which we have been able to do with the help of these generous contributors: to set up this granite exedra, this artistic and useful memor-

ial to Lincoln, in this beautiful and commanding place in our village. And yet I would that we might do even a greater thing: that we might put into practice in our personal and community life Lincoln's ideals: Lincoln's honesty, faith, moral courage; Lincoln's hatred of the liquor traffic and his love of total abstinence; Lincoln's belief in law and in law enforcement; Lincoln's respect and consideration for other creeds and races than our own. This, after all, is the most effective way in which we can honor the memory of Lincoln.

I trust that this memorial may inspire us and those who shall come after us to pay this continuing and greater tribute to his memory.

It is in this spirit that we turn over the Memorial to the care and custody of the village of Peekskill.

We are very glad to have present with us upon this occasion to bring the greetings of the village our village president, who is also a director and ex-president of the Lincoln Society, and who has contributed much to its success. For many years as Chairman of the Speakers' committee he has helped bring to us as speakers at our annual dinners some of the distinguished men of the state and nation. I present to you our Village President Hon. James K. Apgar, who will present to us the greetings of the village of Peekskill."

### President Apgar's Address

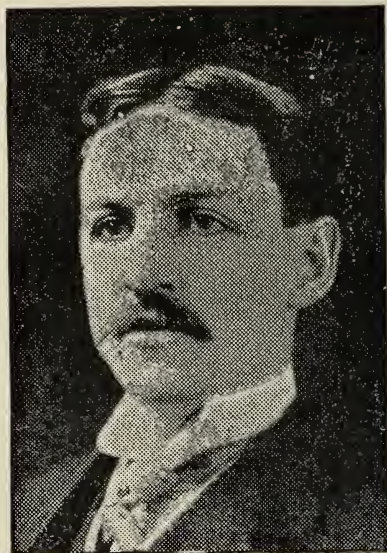
President Apgar spoke as follows:

"Mr. Smith, members of the Lincoln Society, invited guests, and citizens of Peekskill: This is a most interesting ceremony, made so by an unusual event; the kind of an event that would not be taking place here today had it not been for the individual efforts of one of our citizens, who conceived the idea, formulated the plans, raised the money and put the plans into execution. It is a splendid piece of work and I congratulate and commend the efforts of this man, who belongs to the younger generation of Peekskill—the President of the Lincoln Society, Chester A. Smith.

From every point of the compass where we have assembled today there is something interesting to me and it stead of Gen. James W. Husted, whose memory will never fade; and last, but

by no means least, the home of John Smith, one-time president of the Lincoln Society and donor of this property; all of this in sight of the old presents itself as a picture something like this:

"Facing the east, I observe the one-time residence of Hon. Owen T. Coffin; next, the one-time residence of Hon. James W. Husted, our representative in the Legislature and a very efficient Congressman; the next, the old home-



James K. Apgar

homestead of that very distinguished and eminent citizen, the Hon. Chauncey M. Depew.

"Looking to the north, over this valley of Industry, St. Mary's and St. Gabriel's school, one of the finest institutions of learning in this state.

"To the south, the Franciscan Convent and St. Joseph Home; another wonderful institution, where boys and girls are properly housed, clothed and fed. A little village within itself; I might say, with its band of music, its fire department and its military organization. And when they leave that institution they know something about the Constitution of the State of New York; they know something about the Constitution of the United States, and they are good American citizens.

"And to the west, across beautiful



Peekskill Bay, Dunderberg Mountain, unsurpassed in its grandeur at any point along the Hudson river.

"To the northwest, Anthony's Nose, the State Camp of Instruction, Annsville Creek which Hendrick Hudson thought was the end of the Hudson river, and Iona Island, once dear to many Peekskillers as a pleasure resort, but which now is a United States arsenal. And as you approach that beautiful bend in the Hudson, before reaching West Point Military Academy, while you cannot see it all can visualize it, the wonderful Peekskill Bear Mountain Bridge, the legislation of which was made possible by Senator Mastick, who introduced the bill and passed it. All can visualize this great structure connecting two great highways on either side of the river.

"That is the picture which presents itself to me and amid these surroundings, Mr. Smith, and in the presence of this assemblage, I take great pleasure as President of the Village in accepting the custodianship of this work which you have presented to the Village today."

President Smith then continued:

We are thankful to have still living among us some of the men who fought under Lincoln in the Civil War. We are honored to have present with us upon this occasion some members of the Grand Army of the Republic. Their greetings will be presented to us by the Past Commander of Abram Vossburgh Post, Grand Army of the Republic, Henry S. Free, whom it is my high honor now to present to you.

## H. S. Free Saw Lincoln Here

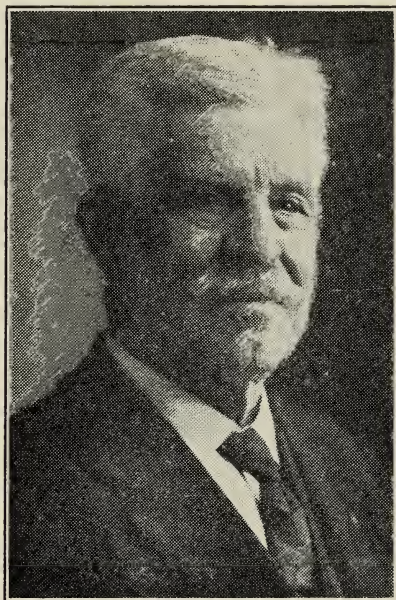
Mr. Free spoke as follows:

"Mr. President, in response to your very cordial invitation in the name of the Lincoln Society to the Grand Army of the Republic to witness the unveiling by the Lincoln Society of a memorial to our brave President and Commander, Abraham Lincoln, I represent here simply a remnant of that great army of men who when the rebels were in arms went forth to battle and if needs be suffer the supreme sacrifice in defense of the flag.

I may add also that of all the volunteers who went forth from within the close limits of our community, I stand here, by the favor of a kind provi-

dence, one of the very few that remain.

Mr. President, it is my purpose now to be brief. I have in mind some items of interest that occurred under my personal supervision or oversight. In the month of February 1861, it was proclaimed throughout the land that the president elect would make his journey from Springfield to Washington by way of the New York and Hudson River Railroad, that the presidential train would stop at Peekskill and that the president would deliver a speech. Upon the day that the train



Henry S. Free

was to arrive in Peekskill, the people began to gather. Some of them had come to town before the day had arrived. It was a group very different in appearance from what we have here today. There were men of the professions; there were farmers, merchants, clothiers, manufacturers, mechanics. There were shop men and laboring men, copperheads and cold feet, and there was also a sprinkling here and there of the opposite sex. It was a motley crowd, come to see and hear what Abraham Lincoln, the abolition president, had to say.

The train arrived in due time about

2 p. m. It stopped approximately one hundred feet this side of the Hudson avenue crossing. The locomotive was detached from the train and passed down the track and in a few moments the president-elect appeared, a man of tall sinewy form and smiling face. I had a standing place about one hundred feet from the platform of the car. He stood upon the platform with the Hon. William Nelson at his left. He began to speak and, oh, how I wish memory had served me so that I might repeat the words that he uttered. As the speech was finished the crowd gradually disappeared. The locomotive was attached to the train and it continued on its way. As I watched it going, I wondered how hard that man would hit the shackles that had held a race in bondage.

In his journey to Washington and at the time of his inauguration with what did he meet? What was there that confronted him? Washington was a hot bed of Southern sympathizers. The army of the United States was unorganized and neglected. There was a navy of ninety vessels of all sorts, sizes and conditions. Only forty-two of them were in commission and they were scattered, you might say, to the four corners of the earth, to Asiatic, African, European and Pacific stations; all scattered purposely by the preceding imbecile administration. It would take from six weeks to six months to put the balance of the navy into condition.

Those were some of the things that confronted President Lincoln as he entered upon his duties as Chief Magistrate of this nation. For four long years he watched and waited, labored and prayed for a restored union and when he lay motionless and cold in death he had made possible the united nation and had made a beginning toward that prosperity and progress which we see manifested everywhere about us today on land and sea and in the air, toward all the great things that promote education, inventions, science, literature and art, all those things which have come to a free and united people.

Mr. President, in closing, let me say in behalf of the Grand Army of the Republic, that we extend to you and through you to the people of

Peekskill, our hearty appreciation of the work you have accomplished."

In presenting the next speaker the presiding officer said:

One of the great accomplishments of the Civil War, as Mr. Free has suggested to us, was the freeing of the race which up to that time in America had been held in slavery. We thought it fitting upon this occasion to have the greetings of that race presented by one of its members, and we asked Clifford W. Hankins, a graduate of our Drum Hill High school, a graduate of Hampton College, standing second in a class of one hundred and twenty-five, now holding a responsible position with the Penn school in South Carolina, to do so. But he is unable to be with us, having assumed his duties in the school some three weeks ago. I have therefore asked his brother, James W. Hankins, to take his place and he will now speak to us.

### **Hankins Lauds Lincoln**

Mr. Hankins spoke as follows:

"It is a great privilege on behalf of the race to which I belong to pay



**JAMES W. HANKINS**

tribute upon this occasion to Abraham Lincoln.

He is enshrined in our hearts in a



peculiar way. He believed in us when many others did not.

We do not forget that it was he who signed the Emancipation Proclamation. We do not forget, too, that his act was also ratified by the people of America by an amendment to the constitution, making perpetual what he had done.

Our people have tried to show their appreciation of freedom by being worthy of it, by being good citizens, by obeying the law, by learning how to do useful work.

How well they have succeeded I think it would be better to let others say.

We want to go on to learn more; to progress further; and to do our part in working together with all those who are trying to make America a better country and the world a better world.

I may say that my people in Peekskill appreciate the kindly spirit which the people of Peekskill have always shown toward us. You have shown the spirit of Abraham Lincoln.

We are glad that this memorial has been erected to him in Peekskill."

Turning to Mr. Hankins, the presiding officer remarked:

"I may say to this young man who has just spoken to us: No race has made such great progress in such a short time as has your race. What a wonderful justification that is of Lincoln."

"One of the most important results of an occasion of this kind is that it brings the present generation of young people into a more intimate touch with the great events of the past. We are very glad to have present with us this afternoon, the members of our Peekskill High school. The program would not be complete without a greeting from them. One of their number has been chosen to present that greeting, John Naylor Gish, who will now address us."

### Greetings from the High School

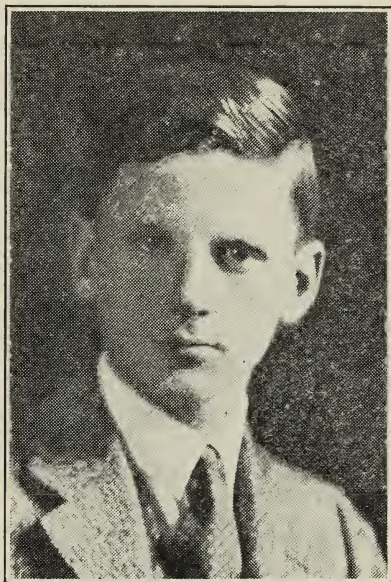
Mr. Gish spoke as follows:

"It is with great pleasure that the Peekskill High school accepts the invitation to contribute its mite to these ceremonies which mark the establishment in Peekskill of a visible token of

love and esteem for that great American, Abraham Lincoln.

In the hearts of the people he is already enshrined. In dedicating this simple, yet beautiful, exedra we are but offering, as it were, a permanent abode where the spirit of Abraham Lincoln may have an abiding place in Peekskill, ever reminding us of the sturdy strength and plain virtues he exemplified, of duty straightforwardly performed "with malice toward none and charity for all."

His work is done, but Abraham Lincoln still lives and will live on, an inspiration to all lovers of peace and liberty.



JOHN N. GISH

In the years to come untold multitudes as they pass this memorial will think—if only for a moment—of Abraham Lincoln, and go on their way refreshed and uplifted."

Continuing, the presiding officer said:

"I am very sure that you, Mr. Free, and you other members of the Grand Army must be glad to know, after listening to that speech, that we have such fine young men of the new generation to carry on your work."

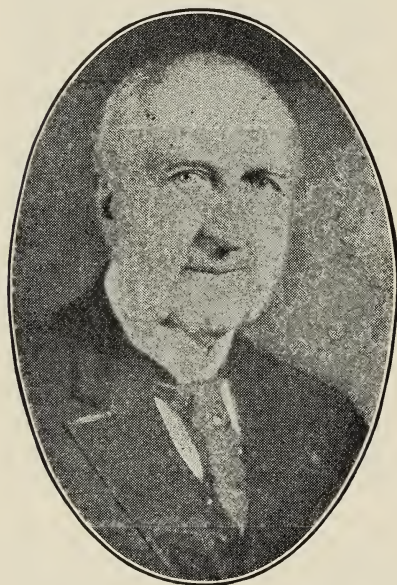


"We have another intimate touch with that past which we are recalling today. We have with us upon the platform, a lady who was present at that famous Republican convention in Chicago, in 1860, which nominated Mr. Lincoln for President, Mrs. Gertrude Windsor, who has lived in Peekskill for several years. We are highly honored to have her present with us. I want to present her to you that you may see her and that you may greet her.

(Mrs. Windsor then rose and bowed while the audience rose and applauded.)

### Chauncey M. Depew Writes

We had hoped to have present with us upon this occasion our fellow townsman, former United States Senator Chauncey M. Depew, who was present with Mr. Lincoln upon that



Chauncey M. Depew

occasion we celebrate today. I think if we had completed our Memorial the first week in September, as we hoped to do, we might have had that honor. But while he is not able to be here, he has sent us a letter of greeting and it will be read at this time by his friend, Geo. E. Briggs, a former President of the Lincoln Society."

The letter as read follows:

New York, Sept. 22, 1925.

My dear Mr. President:

I cordially congratulate you on the completion of the fine memorial commemorating President Lincoln's stopping at Peekskill on his way to his first inauguration. It is a fine record for the Society, and a tribute to your initiative and enthusiasm.

From my automobile the other day, I looked on the site of the monument and the wonderful view, I do not know of anything anywhere which presents such a panorama of beauty as the view of the Hudson and the historical mountains surrounding the bay.

I recall as if it were yesterday, the day of Mr. Lincoln's brief stopping at our depot. The demands upon him from every city, village and hamlet to stop over on his way to Washington, were so numerous that it was very difficult for him, his committee or the railway companies to make selections. One of the few was our village. The depot was then at the foot of Center street, and it was surrounded by a large open space.

The fact that the President's train would stop at Peekskill was widely known. The curiosity to see Mr. Lincoln was so great that the entire population, or all who could leave home, came, from as far back as the Connecticut border—friendly or hostile, they all came to the depot.

Business in the village was practically suspended while the train was expected. The movement of the train was surrounded with unusual conditions. The assassination of the President was threatened, as was the wrecking of the train on which he was a passenger.

The program of the day was to be a brief welcome and then a short speech from the President. The Hon. William Nelson, who had been a colleague of Mr. Lincoln in Congress, was selected to welcome him on behalf of the village.

Upon arrival Mr. Lincoln immediately came out of his car and stepped on a flat car which was the reception platform. The applause was brief, because everybody was anxious. The dominant sentiment was intense curiosity.

It is difficult for us, sixty-five years afterwards, to visualize the conditions prevailing at the time. Our village had, compared with the present, a small population. In its general characteristics it had changed little from Revolutionary times. It had grown slowly, and the addition to its population came mainly from the surrounding neighborhood.

While the people enjoyed general comfort, very few could be called rich. Acquaintance was universal, everybody knew each other and all about each other. Churchgoing was universal, and that led to gatherings at Sunday service. The meeting of the people before and after service, the prayer meetings and Sunday school created a remarkable community intimacy.

The election of Mr. Lincoln had not been anticipated by the people who feared an outbreak of Civil War. Lincoln himself was very little known, and the people were not so familiar-

so rapidly were so dramatic and tragic as to overshadow the event at the depot.

I do not know of anyone now living who was in that crowd. It makes one feel lonesome to recall those who have passed away. I stood on the platform near Mr. Nelson and knew personally almost everyone in the surrounding crowd. They were merchants, clergymen, lawyers, farmers and workers in the iron foundry. I could easily have called most of them by name. They are all gone.

Not only this village, but the whole country and the world are now paying tribute to and honoring Abraham Lincoln. With Washington he has become one of the great leaders of humanity for all times. It is eminently fitting and proper that this spot, which overlooks and embraces the scene of his visit to our village, should be dedicated and consecrated to his memory, as one of the few places in our country which were personally associated with him.

Faithfully yours,

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW.

To CHESTER A. SMITH, ESQ.,

President Lincoln Society.

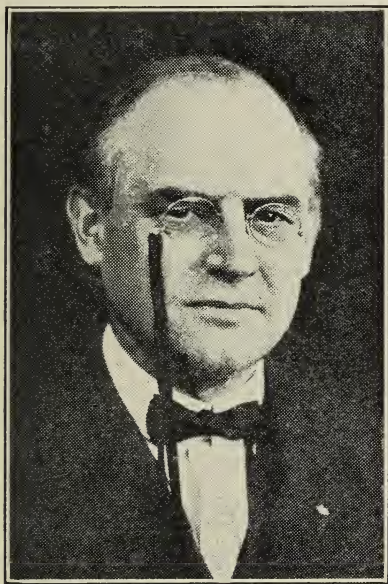
After the reading of the letter President Smith introduced Thomas Nelson, Jr., in these words:

"How fitting it is that we should have with us today the grandson of the man who introduced Lincoln to Peekskill in 1861, and I am very glad that he is here. He is a former President of our village, who has always supported me in every progressive movement I have undertaken in Peekskill, and he will now speak to us: Thomas Nelson, Jr., grandson of Hon. William Nelson, who introduced Mr. Lincoln when he stopped in Peekskill, February 19, 1861."

#### Thomas Nelson's Address

Mr. Nelson spoke as follows:

"Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, fellow citizens: It has been the custom of nations from time immemorial to erect monuments in commemoration of great events which have happened in their midst. This monument is not only a monument to the great Lincoln, a monument to a great



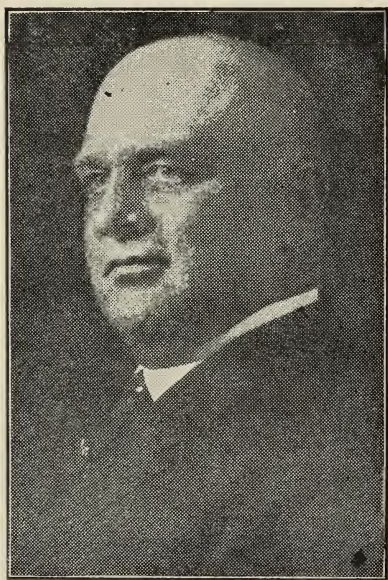
**GEO. E. BRIGGS**

ized with him as with his rival, William H. Seward, and other well known national statesmen. A large majority of our village was hostile to Mr. Lincoln, and fearful of the results of his election. The events which followed



man, but it also serves a useful purpose in allowing the pedestrian arriving here on his way to the village to sit here for a few moments of rest and reflection upon this broad granite seat. It would indeed be a man without imagination who could seat himself upon this seat and look out over this beautiful bay without having brought to his mind thoughts of the great events that have occurred in this locality.

Let us name a few of these events. Mr. Apgar was a little wrong, I think, about Henry Hudson mistaking Annsville creek for the end of the Hudson river. It was a Dutchman named



**Thomas Nelson**

Jan Peck, who some years after Hudson discovered the river, sailed up Annsville creek and established trading relations with a friendly tribe of Indians with whom he found it profitable to deal, those Indians probably being a branch of the same tribe that sold Manhattan Island for \$24. And from that circumstance the creek got the name of Peck's Kill, and this name being later applied to the town which began in this valley is the origin of the name of our village, Peekskill.

At Stony Point to the south was fought one of the dramatic battles of the Revolution. At Tarrytown Andre was captured by John Paulding, a native of Peekskill. Tappan Sea and Sleepy Hollow were made famous by the pen of Washington Irving. It was farther north in the Catskills that Rip Van Winkle, as related by the same author, drank the potion that led to his famous sleep of twenty years, the first case of sleeping sickness on record. And Rip Van Winkle is not the only one in this valley who has been afflicted with such a disease.

Washington had his headquarters in Peekskill at one time. And on the spot which this memorial overlooks Lincoln stopped in 1861.

What a happy thought it was, Mr. Chairman, to set up a memorial to Lincoln at this place. What famous places we can look upon from here and what wonderful scenery.

But it is an impressive scene in which we are now taking part. What wonderful things these youngsters who are here and who have many years yet to live will witness. In what great events they may take part we do not know. What future leaders may come out of those before us!

Let us hope that the things they have seen here today may be an inspiration to them and may be an encouragement to them to be worthy of these great men of whom we are reminded by these historic places all about us."

### **Mr. Bates Writes Letter**

Following ex-President Nelson's remarks, Mr. Smith said:

"We had invited to be present today David Homer Bates, who was manager and cipher operator of the War Department Telegraph Office during the Civil War, and who saw President Lincoln almost daily during that time. But unfortunately the condition of his health would not permit his presence here. He has, however, sent his address upon the subject upon which he was asked to speak and it will now be read by Geo. E. Briggs."

Mr. Briggs stepped to the reading desk:

Looking at his chronometer, he said to Mr. Smith that the hour was

growing late, the air and wind chilly, there was much more on the program to be carried out and suggested the reading of the letter be omitted as it was very long. The President accepted the recommendation.

Mr. Bates' letter is as follows:

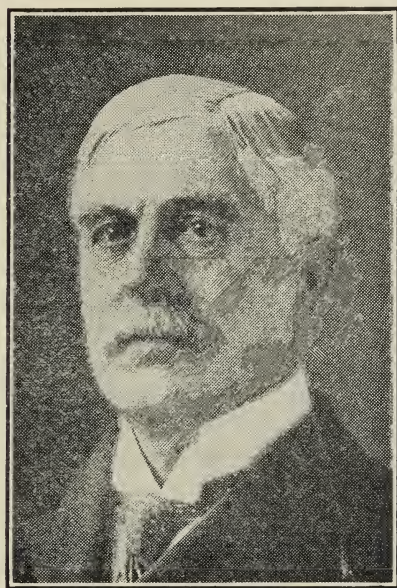
Fort Sumter's fateful signals had not ceased to reverberate over the hills and valleys of the north when the electric telegraph flashed a message from Washington calling for operators for service in defense of the Union. This dispatch was dated April 22, 1861, and signed by Andrew Carnegie, who had just been appointed by Simon Cameron, Secretary of War, as Assistant General Manager of Military Railroads and Telegraph.

In compliance with that telegram my superintendent, David McCargo, selected four operators to proceed to the Capitol at once. All of the quartette except myself are long since dead. We reached Washington, April 25, 1861, and reported for duty at the War Department, where I first met Lincoln. The telegraph office was located in the old War Department building (torn down in 1879 to make room for the present larger State and War Department building). It adjoined Secretary Cameron's room, and as we entered we could see three men, all of them tall, one very massive, President Lincoln, Secretary Cameron and General Winfield Scott—old "Fuss and Feathers." I was first assigned to duty at the navy yard under Captain, afterwards Admiral Dahlgren, but a month later was transferred to the War Department, where I remained for over five years except for several weeks in June 1864, when I was on duty at General Grant's Headquarters, City Point, Va.

At that time the executive mansion was not as now connected by telegraph, and all the President's telegrams were handled in the War Department telegraph office.

From that time until April 14, 1865, the day he was shot by Booth, I met Lincoln every day and many nights, for he visited the telegraph office daily anxious to receive the latest news from the front. He conversed freely with the cipher operators and at intervals told his inimitable stories.

Many of the dispatches were in cipher, and some times because of telegraphic errors it was extremely difficult to unravel the apparently meaningless jargon. Lincoln's interest and anxiety at such periods were very great, especially when the dispatches referred to a battle. Charles A. Dana, long editor of the New York Sun, had been assigned to the duty of visiting Grant's headquarters in Mississippi, and afterwards in Tennessee, and his telegraphic reports were generally very full, and always of great interest. Mr. Lincoln looked forward eagerly to Mr. Dana's accounts of the various engagements with the enemy. The



**DAVID HOMER BATES**

latter's strong virile manner of expressing himself on important questions is well known, and, as the dispatches were audibly read by Mr. Lincoln, possibly merited criticism were softened in the reading by side remarks. It was his habit to read aloud, and to bring his listeners into the current of his thoughts by question or suggestion.

In our cipher code there were several words, each translated "Jefferson Davis." Other words stood for "Robert E. Lee," and so on. Whenever Mr.



Lincoln came to these names he would shorten or transform them into something else—for instance, "Jeffy D.", "Bobby Lee," etc., so that there seemed to go out from him at such time, and indeed on many occasions, a gentle influence. He seemed to be thinking of the leaders of the rebellion as wayward sons rather than as traitorous brethren.

Once, not more than sixty days before his death, he came into the telegraph office with a photograph of himself, which had been addressed to his wife and sent through the mail. The sender added to the picture a rope, which passed around the neck and then upward, tautly drawn, as indicating his hellish desire.

Mr. Lincoln remarked that it had caused Mrs. Lincoln some anxiety which he did not share, although he added some words of regret that any human being could be so devoid of feeling as thus to wound an innocent woman. He said that he received many communications of similar character and had come to give them only a passing thought.

"With malice toward none, and charity for all"—"The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous." These words taken from Lincoln's second inaugural, March 4, 1865, so well illustrate his loving nature and his trust in God that I am led to speak particularly of those characteristics, and to add my humble tribute to his memory.

If love be the fulfilling of the law, then in my opinion, Abraham Lincoln was the nearly perfect example of his generation. I do not speak of his belief in a Divine Being, nor in the Christian faith, although his manifold utterances on the subject of slavery alone shall ever proclaim to the thinking world the fact that at the very root of his spiritual nature he held sacred the teachings of Christ and his practice, as his words when stripped of a certain rudeness incident to his early surroundings in life exemplified those teachings. But I refer to that period of his career during which, if ever, the inborn and inbred kindness of his nature was taxed to the utmost by the treason of many of his former political acquaintances, including some of the northern

copperheads, and the blind impatience of those who seemed to think the Civil War should be carried on according to their own narrow selfish views. Whatever may have been his thoughts respecting his enemies and their efforts to sting and crush him, his truly noble heart in its outward expressions exhibited only love, charity and benevolence.

Lincoln is sometimes called the story-teller of the White House, but not all of the so-called Lincoln stories were his, a few were probably original but the many bear his name only because he retold them and many more because he happened to be present when they were repeated by others.

Sir Francis Burnand, long editor of *Punch*, in an address at Chester, England, years ago, said in substance that many witticisms which were supposed to be original at the time of publication in *Punch* had been copied in other journals, and after wandering all over Europe and America, the old jokes sadly battered and disguised, were often brought back to Mr. *Punch*, who was expected to welcome as distinguished foreigners, the children of his own creation or of which he was a godfather. Sir Francis added that *Punch* kept a joke index to which, in such cases, they often referred only to discover the "fly in the amber."

In the abstract, this principle of the antiquity of jokes is correct. The only one of Lincoln's witticisms which I do not recall having seen in print will illustrate this point.

In the War Department telegraph office, adjoining one of the cipher operator's desks, there was at one time an old fashioned hair-cloth lounge on which the President some times reclined while waiting for news from the front. On one occasion he was seen to get up from the old lounge and flick from his coat the small brown insect known to entomologists as belonging to the species "*cimex lectularius*," in common language a bed bug. As he did so he looked around with his usual smile when emitting humor and said, "Well, I have always had a great fondness for that old settee, but now that it has become a little buggy I shall have to give it up."

Abraham Lincoln, termed by James Russell Lowell, "that brave fore-seeing man, sagacious, patient, dreading praise not blame," how we admire your high-born aims, your Christ-like moods, your calm, courageous spirit, ever hopeful, even when battles were lost, and ever merciful, even when treason seemed to be triumphant. To you, Oh Saviour of our beloved country; these visions of eternal right and justice between man and man, and of certain victory of right over wrong, these far-off visions, unseen by others except a few souls of kindred mould with you were sublime verities as indeed they later came to be to most or all of your countrymen.

During those last four years of Lincoln's national career even until the day of its tragic ending I was fortunate in being permitted to see him and talk with him daily, for he came to the War Department telegraph office morning, afternoon and evening, to receive the latest news from the armies at the front. His tall, homely form could be seen crossing the well shaded lawn between the White House and the War Department, day after day, with unvaried regularity. Many times he remained till midnight, and on several occasions all night.

I was too young at that time to form a matured, intelligent opinion of his character, but I find entered in my war diary under date of April 15, 1865, the day of his death, the following from James 3:7, which is the best expression in a few words of what I then esteemed him to be: "First pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy."

A careful study of his published speeches and writings, and a perusal of many of his biographies since that record was made have only served to confirm my youthful estimate of his simple and altogether lovely character, which has now become the object of wonder and admiration of the civilized world, combining with its innate gentleness, a marvelous tact in the handling of men and in the settlement of complex questions of national and international importance, a faculty of leading public opinion into broader channels and thus aiding in the for-

mation of righteous judgments a skillful control of current events, an ability to gather up useful fruits and toning them for more effective service to his country and mankind, a boundless charity for and deep sympathy with the suffering and oppressed.

All this, indeed, in spite of envy, jealousy, malice and political and personal hatred in the midst of the greatest civil war of history. Surely like the Saviour "he endured the contradiction of sinners" and the mantle of his charity covered not only the down-trodden everywhere, but his own and his country's enemies as well, and if he could have spoken after the fatal bullet entered his brain, he would no doubt have said, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."

Then the interesting feature of the afternoon took place, the unveiling of the memorial. President Smith said:

"The Lincoln Memorial tablet will now be unveiled by Dr. A. D. Dunbar. Dr. Dunbar is a former President of the Lincoln Society, and was, as you know, for many years superintendent of one of our public school systems, and he too brings us into intimate touch with Lincoln, having been a classmate of Mr. Lincoln's son, Robert T. Lincoln, in Harvard College. I take great pleasure in presenting Dr. Dunbar."

#### **Dr. Dunbar Knew Lincoln's Son**

Dr. Dunbar spoke as follows:

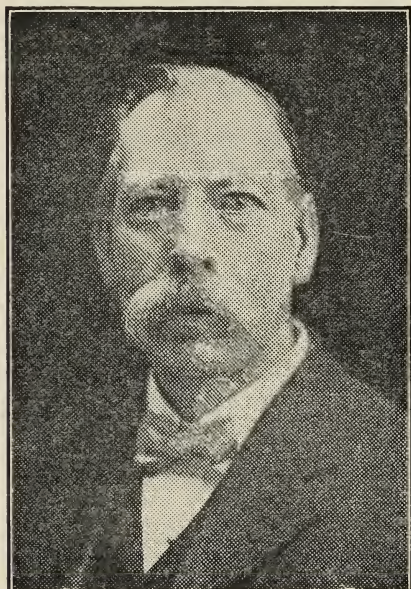
"It was a surprise to me and it is doubtless a disappointment to you that by the enforced absence of our distinguished fellow townsman, Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, the honor of unveiling this memorial has been conferred upon me. And for these reasons:

Robert T. Lincoln, son of the President, was a member of class 1864, at Harvard; I was in the class of 1866, and during the two years from 1862, when I entered, to 1864, when he graduated, we formed an acquaintance ship which was renewed twenty years later when the Hon. Robert T. Lincoln was Secretary of War. Also that I had the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Lincoln in Cambridge when her son graduated. And for the further rea-



son that I am the senior living President of the local Lincoln Society.

The history of our country abounds in great names: Jefferson and Franklin and Hamilton; Grant and Sherman and Sheridan; Webster and Sumner and Seward; and many others. The dimming influence of time and the onrushing surge of current events have obscured the memory of their names and their deeds; but there are two names that survive and which will shine with increasing lustre as the years go by. They are Washington, the beloved, the Father of his country, and Lincoln, the pa-



**Dr. A. D. Dunbar**

tient, the courageous, the preserver of the Union, making possible a mighty nation.

But I shall leave to my friend, Senator Mastick, the development of this theme.

All over this country and in foreign lands Lincoln societies have been formed, where annually the most distinguished and the most eloquent pay tribute to Lincoln's life and memory. The Lincoln Society of Peekskill, was organized in 1903, and annually since that time, a meeting has been

held at which his services have been recounted and his memory honored.

At one of these meetings, as you have heard from the chairman, this plot of ground was given to the Society by John Smith, Jr., with his expressed wish that at some future time a suitable memorial should be erected on this spot to Lincoln's memory.

And what spot could be more suitable or more appropriate? To the north are the government reservations of Iona Island and West Point; to the south are Stony Point and Verplanck Point and the wide expanse of Tappan Zee, all replete with memorable associations of the Revolutionary struggle. Just below is the old passenger station where, from the platform of a waiting train, then on his way to Washington, there to assume the arduous duties of the Presidency, there to proclaim freedom to an enslaved race, there to achieve immortality, Lincoln briefly addressed the assembled citizens.

Today, Capt. John Smith's wish is realized. By the activity and the energy of the President of the Lincoln Society, Chester A. Smith, and through the patriotic generosity of friends the funds were pledged, the exedra completed and the tablet has been placed.

And now in behalf of the Lincoln Society of Peekskill, I unveil the tablet, in the belief that to all here present, to every passer by who shall recognize the medallion, or read the inscription, to all who shall sit and rest within this circle, to all who from this parapet shall look out upon the lordly Hudson and sense its associations, to all shall come inspiration for a more devoted patriotism, a keener sense of civic duty and obligation, inspiration for a better life and a nobler manhood."

Then while the audience stood, Dr. Dunbar pulled aside, at exactly 3.27 p. m., the handsome silk flag which had covered the bronze tablet.

When the audience had been again seated, President Smith introducing the orator of the day, said:

"We invited to deliver the principal address this afternoon a citizen of our own county, a man eminently worthy because of his life and char-



acter, to interpret Lincoln to us upon this occasion; a man of culture, a veteran of the World War, a Senator of the State of New York, from our own 26th district, Hon. Seabury C. Mastick, of Pleasantville, who will now address us."

### Senator Mastick's Address

Senator Mastick's address was in full as follows:

Three score and four years ago, at the very threshold of his greatness, Abraham Lincoln spoke in this village to our grandfathers. Three score years ago Abraham Lincoln passed into the great beyond. In that short space of a little over four years he had freed a race, saved a nation and, making himself immortal, had taken his eternal place among the stars.

His fame has increased with the passing years until today his memory is revered the world over and he is looked upon by all nations as one of the greatest characters in history.

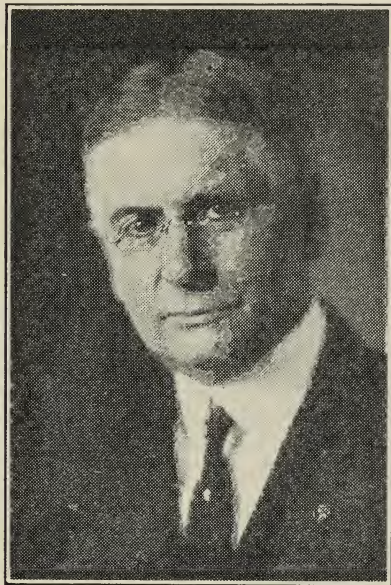
Many pens have drawn his picture in words of eulogy. Many tongues have voiced his praise..

"The color of the earth was ground in him, the red earth,  
The tang and odor of the primal thing—  
The rectitude and patience of the rocks;  
The gladness of the wind that shakes the corn;  
The courage of the bird that dares the sea;  
The justice of the rain that loves all leaves;  
The pity of the snow that hides all scars;  
The loving kindness of the wayside well;  
The tolerance and equity of light  
That gives as freely to the shrinking weed  
As to the great oak flaring to the wind—  
To the grave's low hill as to the Motherhorn  
That shoulders out the sky."

I would speak to you today of Lincoln—a man of courage. He was a manysided man and his qualities have been admired and discussed from almost every angle. Still I do not now recall that his quality of courage has

been as much emphasized as other qualities. His courage stands out so commandingly in his actions and his words that it is fitting to bring a few of the instances to our attention, not only that it may interest us but that we may be inspired from his example to show courage ourselves in our lives as citizens of this great country which he preserved for us.

There are two kinds of courage, moral and physical. Lincoln possessed both in high degree. Of his moral courage I shall speak more at length. Of his physical courage, I



SEABURY C. MASTICK

shall cite a single instance which is within the knowledge of my own family.

When the Confederate General Early made his famous raid on Washington in July, 1864, my father-in-law was one of the soldiers stationed in the fortifications of Fort Stevens.

President Lincoln twice visited the Fort and each time took a position in full view of the enemy. On one occasion a man was killed very near him and on the other a member of the President's party was wounded in the leg. In each case it was difficult to get

Lincoln to yield to the entreaties of his friends and to retire to a less exposed position.

As a young man he was famous for his physical strength and his courage.

Lincoln's moral courage is proverbial.

He was courageous enough not to fear the truth. During his long life in politics there were many occasions when he was attacked by his enemies with misrepresentation and innuendo. His manner of meeting such charges is well illustrated by a letter he wrote in reply to such a charge at the very beginning of his career when he was but 27 years of age.

Allen, Robert

New Salem, June 21, 1836

Dear Colonel: I am told that during my absence last week you passed through this place, and stated publicly that you were in possession of a fact or facts which, if known to the public, would entirely destroy the prospects of N. W. Edwards and myself at the ensuing election; but that, through favor to us, you should forbear to divulge them. No one has needed favors more than I, and, generally, few have been less unwilling to accept them; but in this case favor to me would be injustice to the public, and therefore I must beg your pardon for declining it. That I once had the confidence of the people of Sangamon, is sufficiently evident; and if I have since done anything, either by design or misadventure, which if known would subject me to a forfeiture of that confidence, he that knows of that thing, and conceals it, is a traitor to his country's interest.

I find myself wholly unable to form any conjecture of what fact or facts, real or supposed, you spoke; but my opinion of your veracity will not permit me for a moment to doubt that you at least believed what you said. I am flattered with the personal regard you manifested for me; but I do hope that on more mature reflection, you will view the public interest as a paramount consideration, and therefore determine to let the worst come. I here assure you that the candid statement of facts on your part, however low it may sink me, shall never break the tie of personal friendship between us. I wish an answer to this, and you are at liberty to publish both, if you choose.

Very respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

This same fearlessness of the truth was illustrated again and again during the civil war. No attempt to conceal the facts about a campaign or a battle could escape him. He wanted to know and knowing he could act understandingly. He well knew that fear

is founded in ignorance and that wisdom to act came with knowledge.

He was courageous enough to admit he was wrong when it was clear that he was.

He was not a military man and yet by virtue of his being President he was the Commander-in-Chief of the Army. As such he from time to time criticized the plans of his generals and made suggestions of his own. His was the responsibility and his word was law. Yet when convinced that he was in error he quickly accepted what he believed to be the wiser counsel even going to the extent of writing General Grant at one time after criticizing one of his plans as a mistake which afterwards was a success: "I now wish to make the personal acknowledgment that you were right and I was wrong."

And yet, having the responsibility, he was courageous enough to accept it and the full penalty of such acceptance when necessity arose.

His was the responsibility for the selection of the generals in the field. When he made a mistake he took the full responsibility. When the general made a success he gave the general all the credit. His was the responsibility for the emancipation proclamation—a decision which at the time meant the life or death of the nation. And his was the responsibility of giving or taking away life in the case of those found guilty by court martial. And in all these instances he never shirked his duty. His cheerful nature was saddened. His warm heart was chilled. His homely face took on lines of care. But he never wavered from the path he set out to follow.

He was courageous enough to challenge the power of England. At the very beginning of the war, scarcely a month after his inauguration, he stated the position of the Union in such clear, unmistakable and emphatic terms that England and the world knew just what to expect if they treated with the South as a separate power. In his instructions to Charles Francis Adams, his Minister to England, he said:

Department of State,

Washington, April 10, 1861

First—The President has noticed, as the whole American people have, with much emotion, the expressions of goodwill and friendship towards the United



States, and of concern for their present embarrassments, which have been made on apt occasions, by her Majesty and her ministers.

You can make due acknowledgement for these manifestations, but at the same time you will not rely on any mere sympathies or national kindness. You will make no admissions of weakness in our Constitution, or of apprehension on the part of the Government. You will rather prove, as you easily can, by comparing the history of our country with that of other States, that its Constitution and Government are really the strongest and surest which have ever been erected for the safety of any people. You will in no case listen to any suggestions of compromises by this Government under foreign auspices, with its discontented citizens. If, as the President does not at all apprehend, you shall unhappily find her Majesty's Government tolerating the application of the so-called seceding States, or wavering about it, you will not leave them to suppose for a moment that they can grant that application and remain friends with the United States. You may even assure them promptly, in that case, that if they determine to recognize, they may at the same time prepare to enter into alliance with the enemies of this republic. You alone will represent your country at London, and you will represent the whole of it there. When you are asked to divide that duty with others, diplomatic relations between the Government of Great Britain and this Government will be suspended, and will remain so until it shall be seen which of the two is most strongly intrenched in the confidence of their respective nations and of mankind.

There wasn't any doubt as to his attitude, was there? And this very position, taken at the beginning of the war, kept England neutral and was a great material factor in the winning of the war.

He was courageous enough at the outset of his career to take the unpopular side of a great controversy because he believed he was right. He was courageous enough to maintain this position throughout his life and he was courageous enough to put his thought into deed and to set free a race. From his earliest years he espoused the cause of freedom and opposed slavery. Slavery to him was fundamentally wrong and admitted of no palliation or argument. He believed in the Declaration of Independence and in the Constitution and the very idea of slavery was in his mind repugnant to the spirit, if not to the letter, of those great documents. His devotion to the Constitution, his abhorrence of slavery and his belief that

right and justice would prevail were the mainsprings of his life.

And now he dwells in loving reverence in our hearts. We call him "Father Abraham." The nation has enshrined his image in a wonderful memorial in Washington. To enter there into the presence of his spirit is a benediction and a prayer.

We meet here today to recognize in our humble way the debt we owe to Abraham Lincoln. We unveil this memorial that it may be a lasting testimony of our thankfulness that such a man walked the earth.

The true patriot—the father of his people—the saviour of his country—the martyr to his ideals—the immortal whose spirit broods over America today and would guide us in justice, honor and charity in our leadership of the nations. Such was Abraham Lincoln whose name we delight to honor.

President Smith then said:

"My friends, we thank you all for your presence upon this occasion. We thank Senator Mastick and these other speakers for these splendid addresses, and all who in any way have helped to make this occasion possible and to make it a success. We will conclude our exercises by singing one verse of America."

This act concluded the ceremonies of the afternoon which occupied just about one hour and a half.

Letters of regret were received from honorary members, Senator William T. Byrne; Congressman J. Mayhew Wainwright; George Haven Putnam, Rev. B. C. Warren, Richard E. Coon. Also from invited guests, James B. Ford, Victor C. Anderson, Dr. John A. Smith, Dr. George F. Kunz, President of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

In connection with the dedication, Chester A. Smith, President of the Lincoln Society, wishes to thank publicly Dunlap's Music Store for furnishing the piano for the use of the High School orchestra, the Peekskill Transfer Company for transporting the piano, the Highland Democrat for printing the programs, William W. Tears, for the use of his flags, Commissioner of Public Safety Clifton E. Forbush for shutting off traffic on South street during the exercises,

which added so much to the success of the occasion, and the police department and Chief Henry Burke for co-operation, E. A. Bartle use of chairs, McPhillips & Vaughey gift of chairs.

The memorial is in the form of a granite exedra, 18 feet in length, with a radius of 9 feet, designed by Architect Gilbert H. Anderson.

The inscription on the tablet, made by Tiffany, reads as follows:

This Memorial  
Overlooking the Spot Where  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN  
Spoke to Peekskill Citizens  
February 19, 1861  
Was Erected to His Memory in 1925 by  
The Lincoln Society in Peekskill  
with the  
Contributions of Generous Friends

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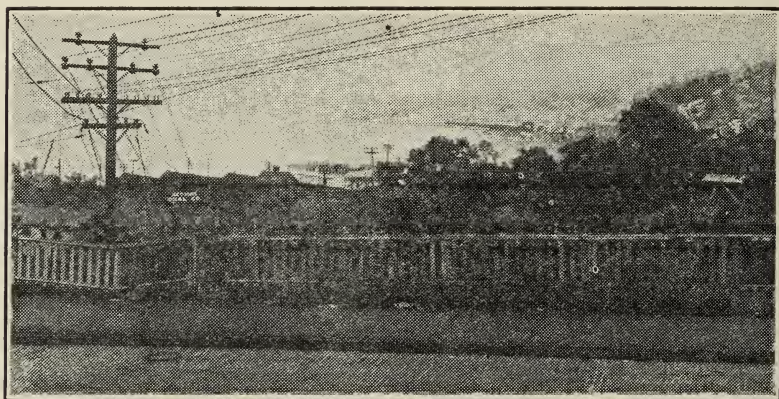
The site was presented in 1921 by  
Captain John Smith, Jr.,  
President of the Society 1917-1918

**Lincoln's Speech in Peekskill,  
February 19, 1861**

At Peekskill, in reply to a brief

address from Judge Nelson, he said:

Ladies and Gentlemen: I have but a moment to stand before you, to listen to and return your kind greeting. I thank you for this reception and for the pleasant manner in which it is tendered to me, by our mutual friend. I will say in a single sentence, in regard to the difficulties that lie before me and our beloved country, that if I can only be as generously and unanimously sustained, as the demonstrations I have witnessed indicate I shall be, I shall not fail; but without your sustaining hands I am sure that neither I, nor any other man, can hope to surmount these difficulties. I trust that in the course I shall pursue I shall be sustained, not only by the party that elected me, but by the patriotic people of the whole country.—From History of The Administration of President Lincoln: including his speeches, letters, addresses, proclamations and messages. By Henry J. Raymond, New York, J. C. Derby . . . 1864.



**The Site As It Looked Before the Memorial Was Erected**

# The Lincoln Memorial in Books

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Concurrent with the erection of the Lincoln Memorial in granite and bronze there was established **THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL IN BOOKS**. This is now a fund of \$1,000, the yearly income from which is used to purchase books on Lincoln or kindred subjects for free circulation through the Field Library, the public library of Peekskill, the Board of Trustees of the Library having voted to accept all books so presented and to permit the same to be suitably inscribed.

**THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL IN BOOKS** was made possible by the generosity of the following: Miss Agnes M. Sutton, Mrs. Mary E. Requa, Mrs. Melvin R. Horton, and Mrs. Evelyn Armstrong, each of whom contributed \$250, Miss Sutton in memory of her father, the late James T. Sutton; Mrs. Requa in memory of her husband, the late Amos C. Requa; Mrs. Horton in memory of her father, the late Albert Chase; and Mrs. Armstrong in memory of her husband, the late Henry L. Armstrong.

Books purchased with the income from these gifts and all subsequent ones will be suitably inscribed.

**THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL IN BOOKS**, providing for the free circulation of Lincoln literature, offers a unique and effective method of presenting Lincoln's life and ideals to each succeeding generation, at the same time keeping alive the memory of worthy local citizens, and will in time give to Peekskill a Lincoln collection which will be outstanding both as to size and material.

Additions to **THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL IN BOOKS** will be welcomed by the Lincoln Society, which will accept designated gifts or bequests from individuals, or contributions from organizations, for that purpose.

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**JAMES T. SUTTON.** Born in New York City, December 9, 1833. Became a resident of Peekskill 1835. Conducted for many years the Peekskill Gas Works, which his father had established. Member Peekskill Board of Water Commissioners seventeen years. Its President for fourteen years. A large factor in the development of Peekskill's water system. Suggested and instrumental in introducing Peekskill's sanitary sewer system. Instrumental in securing the location of the State Camp of Military Instruction of the National Guard at Peekskill. Member Peekskill Board of Park Commissioners four years. Its President for three years. Member Board of Trustees of the Second Presbyterian Church. Married May 8, 1851, Miss Mary E. Williams. Four children: Arthur Gilbert Sutton, Minnie Letitia Sutton, Allan L. Sutton, Agnes M. Sutton. Died February 25, 1904.

**REV. AMOS C. REQUA.** Born Yorktown, October 10, 1839. Prepared for the Methodist ministry but ill health prevented his assuming the duties of a traveling preacher. Local preacher. Devoted himself to religious work in town of Yorktown. Became resident of Peekskill 1882, joining the First Methodist Episcopal Church. Shortly thereafter became Superintendent of its



Sunday School. This position he held for twenty years, devoting to it and to the work of religious education and the training of the young people connected with this large and growing church practically all his time, independent means permitting him to do this without financial reward. Life member Westchester County Bible Society. Its Treasurer for twenty years. Life member American Bible Society. Married April 17, 1872, Miss Mary E. Dayton. Died April 22, 1922.

**ALBERT CHASE.** Born Furnace Woods, April 4, 1847. Became resident of Peekskill 1880. Merchant. A pioneer in the wholesaling of vegetables and farm products in the village. One of the organizers and charter members of Bald Eagle Tribe, No. 264, Independent Order of Red Men. Member First Methodist Episcopal Church. A steward of the church for many years. Member Board of Trustees of the church. At one time Superintendent of the Sunday School of the neighboring community of Florenceville. Married September 23, 1864, Miss Cordelia Albina Ball. Eight children: William H. Chase, Albert B. Chase, Edward Chase, Mrs. Melvin R. Horton, Mrs. Corrella Van Horn, Harry St. Clair Chase, Lulu Chase, Loftus R. Chase. Several years after the death of his wife, married Mrs. Elizabeth F. Pierce. Died May 24, 1923.

**HENRY L. ARMSTRONG.** Born Adams Corners, N. Y., March 23, 1843. Became resident of Peekskill, 1871. Coal merchant. Trustee Peekskill Savings Bank thirty years. Director Westchester County National Bank fifteen years. Director Highland Democrat Company twenty-two years. Its President nineteen years. Member Peekskill Board of Park Commissioners twenty years. Its President fifteen years. Superintendent Sunday School Tompkins Corners Methodist Episcopal church. Member First Methodist Episcopal church fifty-two years. Member of its Board of Trustees forty-seven years. Also served at one time as Superintendent of the Sunday School. Married June 23, 1886, Miss Margaret Fox Barmore. She died in 1908. Married January 29, 1910, Miss Evelyn Paulding Ward. Died February 9, 1925.











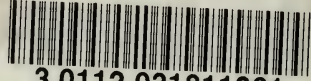








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